

CHAPTER 67-11-17 MENTAL RETARDATION TEACHER CREDENTIAL

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67-11-17-01. Credentials required. For purposes of school accreditation, a school that educates students with mental retardation must employ persons that hold either the North Dakota special education professional credential in mental retardation as provided in this chapter, a North Dakota educator's professional license with a major in mental retardation or the special education strategist credential provided for in chapter 67-11-16.

History: Effective July 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 2001 S.L. ch. 186 § 5; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)

67-11-17-02. Issuing agency. The North Dakota special education teaching credential in mental retardation issuing agency address is:

Superintendent of Public Instruction
Department of Public Instruction
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

History: Effective July 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)

67-11-17-03. Credential standards. Each applicant seeking a credential to provide special education in the area of mental retardation must meet the standards set out in this section. The documentation submitted to obtain a credential must be verified by the department.

1. Prior to August 1, 2003, the standards are as follows:
 - a. An applicant must hold a valid North Dakota educator's professional license issued by the education standards and practices board in accordance with North Dakota Century Code sections 15.1-13-17 and 15.1-13-23 and North Dakota Administrative Code title 67.1, based on a bachelor's degree with a certifiable major or minor or an endorsement in elementary or

secondary education or a major in mental retardation, in which case a special education credential need not be issued.

- b. Areas of preparation of teachers for students with mental retardation include the coursework listed in this subdivision. The coursework must be taken from a college or university with accreditation in this area and offering a major in special education that includes study in the areas listed in this subdivision. Because not all of these are course titles, applicants must have their transcripts and course content evaluated by the department of public instruction staff. All candidates who are to be employed as mental retardation teachers must hold either a general elementary or secondary educator's professional license or hold a North Dakota educator's professional license with a major in mental retardation. The special education credential requires twenty semester hours of credit. The credits must include coursework in each of these areas:

- (1) Exceptional children and youth;
- (2) Mental hygiene or psychology of adjustment or personality theory or abnormal psychology;
- (3) Methods and materials in mental retardation. It is typical that the course will describe the intent of materials, modifying and adapting materials, problem-solving methods, interventions including behavior modification, and other applied learning theory;
- (4) Practicum in mental retardation;
- (5) Characteristics or assessment of specific learning disabilities;
- (6) Transition to adult life; and
- (7) Music or art methods, corrective reading, behavior management, or consultation and collaboration.

2. After July 31, 2003, an applicant must:

- a. Hold a valid North Dakota educator's professional license issued by the education standards and practices board in accordance with North Dakota Century Code sections 15.1-13-17 and 15.1-13-23 and North Dakota Administrative Code title 67.1, based on a bachelor's degree with a licensable major or minor or an endorsement in elementary or secondary education or a major in mental retardation, in which case a special education credential need not be issued; and

- b. Meet education standards and practices board specialty area standards for this specialty as set out in North Dakota teacher education program approval standards 2000 with 2002 revisions adopted effective August 1, 2002.

History: Effective July 1, 2003; amended effective November 19, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)

67-11-17-04. Types of credentials. The professional credential is issued and is valid for the same period as the educator's professional license.

History: Effective July 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)

67-11-17-05. Application process. The application process to obtain a credential under this chapter is:

1. A special education credential application form provided by the department of public instruction must be submitted for the mental retardation credential. Information including the date and applicant's name, social security number, address, telephone number, educator's professional license number and expiration date, signature, and academic preparation are required in the application.
2. A copy of an official transcript must be provided.

History: Effective July 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)

67-11-17-06. Renewal requirements. To renew the mental retardation credential, the teacher shall:

1. Complete the requirements established by the education standards and practices board relative to renewal of the North Dakota educator's professional license. The special education credential follows the expiration date established by the education standards and practices board. No further action is required on the part of the teacher to renew a special education credential that is renewed on a continuing basis.
2. In those instances in which a lapse of the applicant's educator's professional license of more than ten years has occurred prior to

renewal, the special education credential application will be reviewed to assure that all special education requirements have been met.

History: Effective July 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)

67-11-17-07. Notification of denial. If issuance of any credential is denied, the denial must be in writing and must state all reasons for denial. The written documentation must also include the specific requirements from section 67-11-17-03 which must be completed for reconsideration.

History: Effective July 1, 2003.

General Authority: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09

Law Implemented: NDCC 15.1-02-11, 15.1-32-09; 20 USC 1412(a)(14)